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WALKER'S

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**JEWISH LEAGUE FOR WOMEN SUFFRAGE.**—The League will hold a meeting next Tuesday evening at 50, Porchester Terrace (the residence of the Hon. Mrs. Franklin, who will preside), in connection with the National Week of Prayer of the United Religious Woman Suffrage Societies. The speakers will include the Revs. Morris Joseph and I. I. Mattuck, and the Hon. Lily Montagu. The first meeting of the winter session of the East London Branch, was held on Saturday evening at 25, Hanbury Street (by permission of Mrs. Brav.) Mr. Israel Hersch, M.A., delivered a lecture entitled "Votes for Jews." Among those who took part in the subsequent discussion were the Misses Levy, Emden, A. Horwitz, F. Horwitz, and D. Lazarnick and Messrs. Tribich Lincoln, and J. Schneiderman (chairman.)

EVENING STANDARD.

7 NOV. 1913.

### EDUCATIONAL IDEALS.

#### The Hon. Mrs. Franklin on the Work of the Parents' National Educational Union.

An educational mould, which shapes every child with the uniformity of a pat of butter, is opposed to all modern educational ideals.

Although opinions may differ, and probably always will do so, as to the methods of guiding the young idea, people are more or less convinced nowadays that true education lies in the building up of character, while it is of little use if it does not bring out individuality.

At a lecture at the Women's Institute, the

Hon. Mrs. Franklin discussed educational ideals from the individualistic point of view, expressed in the teaching of the P.U. School in connection with the Parents' National Educational Union.

The training school for teachers of the system at Ambleside represents, she said, an excellent opening for educated women which is not as yet overstocked. The demand for these teachers, trained to impart P.N.E.U. methods formulated by Miss Charlotte Mason, is greater than the supply. Some ex-students obtain posts in schools, while others carry on the curriculum as private governesses in touch with the union.

In connection with the ideals expressed in this teaching, Mrs. Franklin mentioned the stress which is laid on the formation of habit in young children—the habits primarily of obedience and self-control.



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If obedience is not a habit, there is no stability or sense of repose. The nervous child—the product of the present age—particularly requires repose. Grown-up people, said Mrs. Franklin, suffer in these days from the fatigue caused by being constantly forced to make decisions. This is, as she expressed it, why Christmas shopping is so tiring. We ought to see to it that children, by being trained in

obedience, are saved the nervous strain of constantly forming decisions.

Not every educationist realises to-day that quiet is a necessity of childhood. Children are taken about to a large number of the places of interest frequented by their elders, which may be excellent in themselves, but fatiguing. Older children have, besides, far too many side occupations nowadays beyond their actual lessons. These interests, said the lecturer, should be part of the day's lesson list, and not extras. Children are far too much talked to and informed about interesting things, until they become tired and utterly overdone.

According to the principles of teaching at the P.U. School, children are not given dry facts, but are sent to books. Books—the best of their kind—are first read to them, and then by them, in order to introduce them from the beginning to “the real” in literature. History and well-written novels are all wells at which we may draw inspiration how to be and to act, and in teaching a child during his school hours to appreciate the best writing, not only is a higher standard of speech and expression encouraged, but he is taught to avoid the danger of temptation on the part of the cheap and objectionable in bookstall literature.

Children may enjoy a good play of Shakespeare better than musical comedy, said Mrs. Franklin. If some mental effort is needed in order to appreciate a classic, children learn the pleasure of enjoying something for which they have worked, and are taught to avoid looking always on the trivial side of things.

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## WATFORD OBSERVER

29 Nov. 1913

### NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN WORKERS.

#### ANNUAL MEETING OF BERKHAMSTED BRANCH.

##### PROTEST BY ANTI-SUFFRAGISTS.

The Hon. Mrs. Franklin, a member of the executive committee of the National Union of Women Workers, was the principal speaker at the annual meeting of the Berkhamsted Branch, which was held at Cross Oak, by invitation of Mrs. Berlein, the branch president, on Thursday afternoon, November 20th. There was a large attendance, due in part to the feelings provoked for and against a suffrage resolution adopted at the Hull Conference of the National Union.

Mrs. Berlein presided, and in her opening address set forth the ideal embodied in “Union is strength.” The National Union of Women Workers might justly be described, she said, as the implement which gave effect to the wishes of good and thoughtful women, who, as individual units, would be almost always powerless. By collective effort towards achievement, responsibility, from being a burden, became a power, and individual mind and will a contribution to an organised strength of purpose. The work of the National Union was carried on largely by central sectional committees, the work of which Mrs. Berlein briefly referred to. Among them were the Preventive and Rescue Sectional Committee, which, through its affiliation with the N.U.W.W., prevented the waste of energy which would be the result of overlapping, and through whose agency, though the work only began in October, about 30 girls had been individually cared for, accompanied home, and encouraged to follow the more excellent way; the Sectional Committee on Education, which was influential in the highest degree, and when such a body of women spoke out on any matter connected with the upbringing of the rising generation no one could afford to turn a deaf ear; the Legislation Sectional Committee, regarding which many of them had no idea of how many Bills passed concerning women, in which, but for that committee, women would have had no voice; the Public Health Committee, and others. The Girls' Clubs Sectional Committee had developed into the National Organisation of Girls' Clubs, comprising 427 Girls' Clubs. The Students' Career Association was an off-shoot from the central bureau for the employment of women, and already 163 schools and 19 University Colleges had joined it. The Rural Housing Association was also a most practical society, and two members of their Union were on the board of management of the



Berkhamsted Tenants, and Greenway was already a happy fact. Another member had aroused her neighbourhood to the realization and the necessity of better housing conditions. If, as Mr. Holland-Hibbert said in his admirable speech at the County Council, there was a shortage of about 200,000 cottages in England, what misery, ill-health, and many other evils that meant. Rural District Councils had the power to build, but they rarely did so unless they were forced into action. Any woman could be that motive power. They hoped in the coming year to find opportunities for some of the local affiliated societies to explain their special interests to the branch. Meantime among those which evoked warm sympathy were the Preventive and Rescue Society, recently formed in the district, the N.S.P.C.C., the Nursing Association, the Local Volunteer Aid Detachment, and Miss White's Girls' Class. Referring to the discussion of the Union's constitution at the Hull Conference, Mrs. Berlein said she associated herself entirely with the views expressed by Mrs. Creighton, the president of the Union, and endorsed her account of what took place. In her letter Mrs. Creighton reminded them that the executive had decided to exclude the Press from the Council meeting. But on the evening of the Council meeting a few of the members of the minority telegraphed their own statement as to what had happened to the Press agencies, which spoke of crisis and a split, and that naturally attracted more attention than the sober statement of what had happened, which appeared only in a few papers. All who were present would agree that the proceedings at the Council meeting were most quiet and orderly, and that everyone was granted free opportunity for the expression of their ideas. As to the alterations, branches and affiliated societies were not to be considered responsible for the opinion of the Council as expressed by resolution, unless and until they had themselves affirmed the resolution passed by the Council at a meeting of their own. In that way their independence was secured. It was almost inevitable that there should be a minority on important questions, but one which had a most useful part to play as critic and moderator. So far the minorities had always been loyal to the Union as well as to their own opinions. She hoped the minority in those last discussions would still feel that they could help and be helped by the Union, and that it would not lose the contributions of their work and thought. Miss Soulsby, a member of the executive who was in the minority, had said she had not the least intention of resigning, and that she considered it would be an unpublic-spirited act to resign because one was in a minority.

Mrs. Hardy (secretary) and Miss Francis followed with some personal impressions of the Hull Conference, which they attended as delegates. Referring to the suffrage question, the latter said that opposition did for any cause what rugged country did for a stream, gave it added force and a distinct channel. The minority at Hull were the majority at Berkhamsted. There had never before, perhaps, been as much interest taken in their meeting, and she hoped that the minority would continue to take their share in the work of the Union, and save it from the monotony of argument.

In the absence of Lady Cooper, Mrs. Bailey asked to be allowed to state the case of those protesting against the recent change. There had been, she said, a good deal of misconception about their position. They were not all anti-suffragists. They felt that after the passing of that resolution they could no longer remain in a Union which pledged itself absolutely to one thought and action, to which they were extremely averse. Suffragists had already 13 societies through which they could make their voice directly heard, and it was therefore not necessary to make that Union a suffrage society. Their constitution laid it down that they should not bind themselves directly to one party, and they had therefore violated their own constitution. No one out of Bedlam would think that such a resolution would induce sympathy among women. Though in future they would not be working together, they would be doing similar work, and there was no need for personal bitterness. They accorded to others the right to honest convictions which they claimed for themselves. Their work would be done side by side, and would be done in peace and charity for the common good.

The Hon. Mrs. Franklin, before she read her paper on "Moral Education," made further reference to the Hull Conference. As a member of the London executive, she hoped there would be no bitterness. She hoped the last speaker would go still a little further, and not say they would only do the same work under different organisations; that would be a tragedy. Of the 90 members of the Shropshire branch, 34 were present at their recent meeting, and 31 voted for secession and three against, but 57 did not come at all, which showed they did not feel very deeply on the point. On the other hand, the Edinburgh branch, which was a big one, had Lady Casselis, a strong anti-suffragist, as president. She, however, would not resign, as so many other anti-suffragists did, as she recognised that she could do more good in the



p70m475

Union. Before those in Berkhamsted copied the example of Shropshire, she hoped they would consider the example set them in Edinburgh. By their ~~constitution~~ they were bound to bring up for discussion the Bill before Parliament; if they had not it would have been a question of "silence giving consent." The revised constitution contained many more safeguards than the old one. No resolution of the Council would now be operative with the branches unless and until the branches passed a similar one. It was therefore quite open to the branch to pass a resolution against that particular part. She asked that all would remember the largeness of the idea of a Union. They belonged to an affiliation of societies all over the world. The actual secessions and withdrawals had been very, very small, while on subscriptions they were actually £6 to the good.

The speaker then went on to read the paper, which was originally prepared for the Hull Conference. In it she urged the need for mind furniture, so that they could have desirable things to discuss and talk about, and also so that they should not be forced to discuss things which were not so desirable. As trustees for the future they should see that their stream should flow on unsullied by its contact with the present. Something was already being done in education as to the physical and moral dangers of the street. Undoubtedly the home, rather than the school, was the right place for such education. Mothers should be taught the gravity of it all, and how they could best deal with it. Sex morality was only one part of such education. Let their children be so spiritually taught that immorality would be an impossibility.

At the conclusion, in expressing the thanks of the members to Mrs. Franklin, Mrs. Berlein mentioned that she had arranged with Mrs. Leiths, the president of the Canadian National Union, to visit their branch in January.

Mrs. Lamb, Cross Oak-road, is the hon. secretary of the local branch, and any communications as to membership, &c., should be addressed to her.

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BIRMINGHAM DAILY MAIL.

10 DEC 1913

## IDEALS OF EDUCATION.

### WHAT IS WRONG WITH OUR SYSTEM.

#### INTELLECTUAL STRONG MEAT ADVOCATED.

The Hon. Mrs. Franklin, hon. organising secretary of the Parents' National Educational Union, lectured on "The Principles and Methods of the Parents' Union School" to members of the Birmingham Child-study Society at the University, Edmund Street, last evening. She began by asking whether our educational system was fulfilling the ideas they had for it. Did their young people, when they left school, possess the power or the desire of going on with their education? If not, wherein did the error lie? It seemed to her increasingly that one of the saddest things of the present day was the inability of anyone really to hold and form an opinion. One proof that education was not right was we were as a nation without educational principles, and therefore we ran after anything because it was new. She was not going to offer any new method. If they granted that the mind needed food, then they would have adopted an educational principle which would make it impossible for them to accept a method of teaching which ignored any mental ideas and treated the mind of the child as a sensory organ only.

What was at fault that they did not attain the ideal? First, the mental diet offered to the pupils was not vital nor varied enough. Children should be given that knowledge which was their due from books as well as from things, in school hours, and taught how to handle them. Then the curriculum was too limited. It was work on one subject only which was boring and led to brain fag. Teachers lessened the natural desire of children for knowledge by appealing to their love of marks and prizes. The desire of emulation was put before the children instead of the love of knowledge. Children were lovers of intellectually strong meat. If they wanted to rear up a self-respecting race that would understand their fellow creatures they must give them some insight into the way in which character acted. They were not giving the children that when they put into their hands a weapon for evil—which was teaching them to read and not helping them to know what they should read. She would let children touch life at every point. They should learn dancing and swimming, play games, and act their own scenes from the history and stories they had heard. The whole object of the Parents' National Education Union was that children should work for themselves with very little help from the teacher.



# "OUR OWN CHIMNEYS."

## A PLEA FOR THE HOME-KEEPING CHRISTMAS.

p9 amc475  
THE Hon. Mrs. Franklin, honorary organising secretary of the Parents' National Educational Union, makes a protest against the modern fashion of spending Christmas in pleasure-seeking crowds away from home in hotels and on Swiss mountains.

"Surely," she says, "among all these delightful opportunities for pleasure-seeking, there is much that is lost. From the point of view of the busy mother, it may be the easier way of spending the children's holidays—housekeeping is simplified and the children are happy without any trouble on our part. But the matter goes deeper. Our boys and girls who are away from home lose any sense of what home is, and parents are apt to miss the rare opportunities for strengthening that most precious of all possessions—their children's friendship."

### Sending the Children Away.

"Even if there were family jars and quarrels among the family gatherings beloved of Dickens, with their tiresomely critical maiden aunts and irritable old uncles, there were also many occasions for the give-and-take of life, many little deeds of kindness which led to a better understanding between young and old."

"We send our children away to school, or even when the little ones are at home they have such busy, full lives, so that it is to the holidays we look for really knowing their joys and their sorrows, for strengthening their character, for recognising danger signals, and so on. The little ones hardly know the big brothers and sisters whose moments at home are so few."

"Can any parent honestly say that schoolboys and girls tell them much in their letters? How can we prevent that

shyness that comes between parent and older children unless we have talked and read and walked and played with them, unless home and the home circle means something more than a somewhat sentimental name. Moral dangers meet our loved ones as they go on their path through the world, and parents must know how to read their children's very look, so that they may be able to help and strengthen them, whilst the younger generation must be able to feel that mother and father are there and will understand."

### The Winter Evenings at Home.

"Errors in good taste, in books, in friends, in plays, are at the bottom of much failure in character. It is in the winter evenings that books can be read, and music heard that will teach the children what is good and fine, and what is vulgar, coarse and cheap. Is it really a fact that a toboggan run and a ski expedition quite equals the fun of family

and family romps and the joy of visiting cottage neighbours, and hearing 'how one has grown,' and 'I should never have known you,' from people who really care for and love us? Winter sports among casual hotel acquaintances are very delightful, but it may be the pendulum is swinging too far towards ease and luxury and pleasure, and it may be that in our wild chase after these we are losing the pearls above price, the old-fashioned simplicity of life, and a better understanding between the young and the old."

"Santa Claus may remember our children among the Alps, or in Northumberland-avenue, but he bears a somewhat more artificial and quite a different look, and one is led to wonder if his message is as wholesome as when he comes down our own chimneys!"

It is not so very easy to be "merry" at Christmas time. That is, at least, the conclusion one may come to after studying the faces and listening to the conversation of many women at this season of the year. "It's the rush and the worry that always makes me tired and seedy at Christmas," said one woman when I asked her to tell me why "Christmas didn't appeal to her at all." And it is perfectly true that a large number of women, of wives and mothers especially, associate Christmas Day with a sense of mental and physical flatness, or futility, due to over-fatigue.

### Women's Dilatoriness.

Indeed, the sight of worried shoppers, intent on the purchase of more or less useless articles up to the last few hours of Christmas Eve, is an object lesson in feminine dilatoriness, lack of foresight and common-sense.

Men seem to enjoy Christmas more than women, perhaps because they escape all the detail of preparation and are only asked to participate—and, in most instances, to pay. On the other hand, man's training, if he had to undertake woman's arduous burden at Christmas, would help him to do things in a more business-like way. He would not leave to accumulate matters that should be arranged a fortnight before, or sit up until after midnight amidst arrears of cards and parcels, Christmas letters and remembrances. It is, of course, largely unselfish work that causes most women's over-fatigue at Christmas, but lack of method contributes to a great deal of ill-health at Christmas-tide.

### Three Safeguards.

To keep well at Christmas entails upon women three considerations—

To guard themselves from the season's strain in a sensible way.

To prevent chill and contracting infection.

To study the Christmas diet question.



p11 cm0475

To safeguard not only themselves but their families from "colds" is a most important matter at this time of year. The children, after a spell of school and lessons, are naturally eager for Christmas dissipation. And the most disciplinarian of parents desire that their offspring should have a fair share of parties and treats. Christmas joys are the birthright of youth, and let us give to the children all that we can in the way of "a Merry Christmas." But give it sensibly. Late hours, unsuitable food, stuffy rooms, and exposure to chills ensure a

certain amount of unnecessary illness in far too many households, and the children are less fit for school work at the end of the holidays than they were at the close of their last term.

### Christmas Fare and Hours.

Christmas fare is far too rich for grown-ups, and quite unsuitable for children if no care is exercised to limit strictly the amount. There is an almost irresistible temptation to over-eat the turkey and goose, the creams and jellies of Christmas week, with disastrous consequences. Indigestion combined with insufficient sleep plays havoc with the health of boys and girls, who would enjoy themselves just as well on a curtailed diet and a 9 p.m. bedtime.

Indeed, the best way for the housewife and mother to safeguard her own health is to make a rule that all children under ten are in bed by seven and schoolboys and schoolgirls by nine o'clock two nights out of every three. If a late evening has to be permitted the children should be allowed to stay in bed an hour or two longer next morning.

When over-eating is suspected a dose of medicine at bedtime and Spartan diet for 24 hours will help to avert consequences, whilst chill should be avoided and "colds" also by careful ventilation at

"parties" and by wrapping up the children before leaving warm rooms.

Let women determine to secure, at all hazards some quiet hours to themselves in advance, and they will have far more chance of joyous participation in all that Christmas brings. Try shopping as early as possible in the morning and you will get through just four times as quickly as if you left it until the afternoon. Take judicious rests if you have a lot to undertake, and remember that a glass of hot milk is a wonderful restorative when you are chilled and over-tired. Most women try to do too much, with the risk that they will be worried and irritable on the one day of the year when peace, happiness, and joy should fill the home.

Surely it is better for friends and children to receive less in the way of actual gifts so long as the Christmas atmosphere is preserved and the home free from tension, worry, and the ill-health of body and spirit they confer.

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### Preliminary Precautions.

The most practical step towards keeping well at the Christmas season is to have plenty of sleep before the great family gathering and to get well ahead with preparations, whilst absolutely repelling any temptation to worry because you may not be able to satisfy yourself that you have forgotten nothing and omitted no one from the orgy of present-giving natural woman loves so much.

Thus you will enjoy Christmas, without undue fatigue or the "influenza cold" which so frequently follows neglected sleep and neglected meals followed by the lavish Christmas fare, when the system is too tired to digest it. Because Christmas colds and infections generally are ten times more liable to afflict the people who allow themselves to get run down in mistaken unselfishness and unnecessary martyrdom.

The best Christmas gift the housewife can give is the indefinable atmosphere of bright, cheery, quiet joyousness which health brings to the home.



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DAILY NEWS.

JAN. 26 1914

## JADED CHILDREN OF TO-DAY.

Are They Seen Too  
Often at the Theatre?

LONDON LEAD WHICH NEW  
YORK IS FOLLOWING.

Are the children of to-day seen too often at the theatre?

An affirmative answer comes from a quarter which is a little unexpected—New York—for much has been heard in this country about the blasé child of the New York millionaire.

Now the wealthy residents of New York have organised themselves into a Parents League, and parties, plays, and dances are very largely to become a dream of the past.

It is curious in a place with the reputation of "getting a move on" in most things that such a movement has been so long in coming. To some extent it was anticipated in England long ago by the Parents' National Educational Union, one of whose objects is to create a better public opinion on the subject of the training of children and to afford to parents opportunities for co-operation and consultation.

### An English Precedent.

The Hon. Mrs. Franklin, the hon. organising secretary of the union, told a "Daily News" interviewer that the League in New York naturally had an interest for her, but she did not see any necessity for the adoption in England of the methods advocated by that organisation.

There was no doubt, she said, that some slowing down in the lives of American children of the better class was really needed, but it had to be remembered that the average American child was temperamentally different from his English cousin. Nevertheless, Mrs. Franklin added, it was clear that English boys and girls appeared to enjoy far too many opportunities for amusements of a kind that tended to divert their attention from the simpler but by no means less interesting surroundings of their daily lives. Too many theatres, too many dances, helped to make other things appear in a less attractive light.

Mrs. Franklin holds interesting views on the suitability of the theatre for children, an aspect of the question with which the New York parents are especially interested.

### One Play a Year.

Far from approving of a round of plays, musical comedies, and other theatrical fare, she is convinced that one really good play in a year—a classical play, for preference—is sufficient for any child. It gives them, she says, something to think about and to talk about, is mentally stimulating, and engenders impressions that outlive the many inane productions of the latter-day stage.

A little friend of hers derived endless delight for a whole year from witnessing a performance of "Julius Caesar." He declaimed the famous lines, assumed the various rôles, and in short proved Mrs. Franklin's theories up to the hilt.

Reasonable hours for the beginning and ending of dances for boys and girls, another stipulation of the American League, are, Mrs. Franklin believes, generally adopted here. They are invariably simple, unaffected dances; whilst the generality of children's parties are over about eight. If they conclude later, it is the fault of the parents.

Even children's parties should, in her view, be few and far between.

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Die Frau und die Kinder  
sollte eine interessante und  
Lord Samuel ist gekommen um  
zu nehmen. Diese Gärten oft  
gen. Jede Seite steht in  
der Zeit in der  
Ausstellung der  
Halle.



MANCHESTER  
GUARDIAN  
21 JULY 1915.

**"Women's Parliament."**

The National Union of Women Workers, which is so thoroughly representative that its annual conference is spoken of as the Women's Parliament, is arranging to hold this year's conference in London during the first week in October. The conference which was to have met at Bristol last year, and which had chosen as its subject social unrest and its significance, was abandoned, and this will really be the first great general gathering of Englishwomen since the war began. It has very wisely selected a subject—"Women's share in the work of reconstruction after the war"—which gives scope for the most practical discussions. One day is to be devoted to consideration of what reconstruction is likely to be needed in education, industry, legislation, and the care of public health. Papers will be read by Miss Burstall, of the Manchester High School; Miss Adler, Miss Catherine Marshall, and Dr. Mary Murdoch. Mrs. Rackham is to read a paper on naval and military pensions and grants, and at the meeting of the International Council of Women, an essential feature of the conference, the Hon. Mrs. Franklin, taking as her text the proceedings of the International Council held last year in Rome, will discuss international relations between women.

DERBY ADVERTISER  
18 FEB 1916

**CHILDREN AND THE WAR.**

The annual meeting of the Derby Branch of the Parents' National Education Union was held at Abbots Hill, by kind invitation of Mrs. W. H. Richardson, about 55 members being present. The president, Mrs. Meynell, was in the chair, and she expressed great gratification at the prospect of hearing the hon. Mrs. Franklin speak on so wide a subject as "Children and the War." After the reading of the annual report and balance sheet and the re-election of officers, Mrs. Franklin, hon. organising secretary of the London P.N.E.U., addressed the gathering. She said what pleasure it gave her to speak to so keen a branch of the P.N.E.U. The union continues to grow bigger in spite of the war, and it now had many branches not only in the British Isles, but all over the world. The Parent's Union School, a correspondence school for children working under parents and governesses in home school-rooms, supervises the education of over 2,000 children. Children taught according to this system of education have more than proved its worth. No work is more worth doing thoroughly than the education of children, and they must see to it that the rising generation had a better and longer education than their antecedents. Past mistakes in education had led to a lack of accuracy in statements, and often since the war began rumours had been started without a sound foundation and had so grown in the repetition that one Russian in England had suddenly become a large army passing through the country on its way to France! They must teach the children what it was to form an opinion; history, if properly taught, would help them to form right opinions. It was foolish to emphasise hatred of the Germans in the presence of children, because the youth of Germany to-day was in no way responsible for the war, and in days to come it would be better for the children of both nations to have thought well of each other. While educating they must teach true citizenship. Behind the patriotic cry must be a caring for the conditions of the country and its people; patriotism was as important in times of peace as in war. They wanted better human being, and nature, art, music, books—the love of those things that cost nothing would help to produce happier and better citizens. Mrs. Franklin concluded her address by urging all present to read the books of the Home Education series by Miss Mason, the founder of the union: in these they would find all the principles and methods of this system of education set forth.

After thanks had been given to Mrs. Meynell, Mrs. Franklin, and Mrs. Richardson, the hostess, tea was served in an adjoining room.



NORTHERN WHIG  
25 MAY 1916 p17 cm475

## "WOMAN'S WORK FOR THE EMPIRE."

### Lecture in the Victoria College.

In connection with the Schools' Empire Day celebration an interesting lecture was delivered at the Victoria College yesterday afternoon by the Hon. Mrs. Franklin, of London, on the subject of "Woman's Work for the Empire During the War and After." The meeting was largely attended, and was presided over by Mrs. J. C. White. Victoria College has a high reputation for loyalty, and it was certainly not out of the running on this occasion. Pretty flags and lovely flowers were plentifully displayed, and the entire decorations reflected the utmost credit upon the esteemed Principal, Miss Matier.

Mrs. White, in the course of a brief introductory address, said she thought the exchange of ideas between Ulster and England in regard to the subject of that afternoon's lecture should greatly benefit the work and make them appreciate each other's efforts the more. In this country they still seemed to be only on the fringe of this world-wide struggle; it had not yet touched them very deeply. But she thought that, perhaps, when they had heard what the Hon. Mrs. Franklin had to say they would make greater efforts. She (the speaker) knew well what the girls of Victoria College did last year, and how greatly their sacrifices were appreciated, and she hoped they would repeat them this year. (Applause.)

Mrs. Franklin, who was cordially received, said it seemed to be very appropriate that she should be asked to speak to them on the anniversary of that great Queen, Queen Victoria, on "Women's Work During the War and After." That good Queen would no doubt have opened her eyes in amazement at the impossible things, as she would have thought, that women now found it possible to do, and although she might have been rather shocked at many things, as a loyal-hearted woman and great Queen she would have rejoiced at the spirit in which every bit of work, important and simple, had been done. Given the opportunity, women asked for nothing more than to be allowed to help. All their fighting and asking was only to be allowed to play their part in helping forward the world. The girls before her that afternoon were learning to fit themselves and take their part in the work when the opportunity presented itself. New paths were opening up for women, and the difficulties which others had to confront had been smoothed away. Now people who before were not

accustomed to think very much about women and women's work had actually put their signatures to a letter in the "Times" asking them to come and be trained as doctors. The war had brought out many horrible things, but one outstanding good thing was that women had been allowed to help, and the doors could never again be shut in their faces. Not only in England and Ireland had women been allowed to help but the same story was heard all over the empire. Mrs. Franklin proceeded to describe in detail some of the many new avocations in which women were playing a noble part to-day, referring in particular to the women patrols, the soldiers' laundries, the toy manufactories, the V.A.D. hospitals, women cooks in soldiers' camps, women dispensers, women welders of aeroplane joints, &c., women munition workers, and women civil servants, as well as the propaganda work carried on by women in the matter of the war economy and war savings movement. She emphasised the importance of women not engaging in work for less pay than men and not choosing work for which they were physically unfit. Continuing, the speaker said it seemed to her that this war would show how well women could play their part in the spheres of medicine and surgery, just as the Crimean war served to show how much they could help in nursing the sick and wounded. (Applause.) In conclusion she asked what was going to happen after the war. When men came back, if women had not undersold them and had stuck out for the same wages for the same work, then the best, those most fitted for the work, would be employed. Many men would never come back, and many new industries would be opened up. There would be more co-ordination, fewer public-houses, and less drink. (Applause.) The demand which had been going on for fifty years for women's rights as citizens had never been a selfish one, and out of all their work there had arisen a better understanding. (Applause.)

On the motion of Mrs. Fennell, seconded by Mrs. Wilson, B.A., a hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mrs. Franklin for her interesting lecture. A similar compliment was paid to Mrs. White for presiding, on the motion of Miss Montgomery, seconded by Miss Craig Houston, and the proceedings terminated with the singing of the National Anthem.

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# Alexandra College Guild: Women's Work To Day.

The Alexandra College Guild of Social Service, which embraces past and present students of the college, has ever on hand a number of social activities, directing the energies of the members into the most useful channels of helpfulness. The guild came into existence owing to the extension of the sphere of women's work, when the need for such objects as it had in view was felt by students, past and present, to be real and pressing. The annual meeting of the guild was held last week at the college (Earlesfort-terrace, Dublin), the chair being taken by Lady Talbot de Malahide, vice-president of the guild. The proceedings included the accounts of various phases of the guild's social service work, but the principal feature of the programme was an address by the Hon. Mrs Franklin entitled "How Women are Helping Their Country." Miss White, LL.D., lady principal of the college, in a short speech mentioned that the guild had sent thirty-seven children from tenement houses for a fortnight's holiday in the country, and they had also subscribed £23. 10s. 6d. to help factory girls to get holidays. The social service reports were then read. Miss A. Douglas described the work at the Alexandra tenement houses at Summerhill. Miss M. Gahan gave an account of the Grenville-street playroom, where thirty or forty children enjoy games in a bright airy room with a fire and a piano. Miss K. Preston, secretary of the Present Students' Bursary, told how twenty-eight poor ladies of gentle birth and education were receiving full bursaries, and twelve others half bursaries, to add to their small incomes. Mrs Robert Murray gave an account of the Belgian Home of which she is hon. secretary and treasurer,

and Miss Kaftanikoff, daughter of the hon. warden of the working girls' hostel at Rathmines, perhaps the most valuable institution which the guild has as yet been the means of establishing, gave particulars of its management and usefulness, some twenty-six or twenty-eight working girls being accommodated at a very trifling charge per week. The working girls' club at Harold's Cross was dealt with by Miss Cherry. Lady Talbot spoke of the accounts as most interesting, and she hoped that many of the younger members of the guild would be encouraged to help in efforts of such value to Dublin. Mrs Franklin then delivered her address, which was excellent. The withdrawal of so many men from their normal occupations in consequence of the war has shown what splendid work women are capable of rendering to the State, and this was the theme of Mrs Franklin's very interesting discourse. Speaking of women doctors, Mrs Franklin said that eminent statesmen who were formerly unfriendly towards the efforts of women now appealed to them to train for the medical profession. There is a woman still living who was scorned when she asked to be allowed to help as a doctor, and to-day her own daughter holds the rank of Major in the British Army and has charge of a hospital entirely staffed by women. France has a similar hospital, while in Russia the maternity hospital in Petrograd, entirely staffed by women, is doing marvellous work. A sign of the times was the number of women occupied to-day as gamekeepers, shepherds, farmers, gardeners, &c., and the war has shown that the country wants more skilled workers in many professions. All this involved the breaking of new ground, and there was no reason why women should not take up the family business when there was no son, or engage in banking or other business management. But with all these new professions they should not forget the old one of teaching and caring for the children and "mothering the nation," which was pre-eminently women's work. They could then take, and rightly, claim their share in the regeneration of the world and the reconstruction of a better world that they hoped for after the war. Lady Talbot expressed the thanks of the meeting to the lecturer and to Miss White for giving them the opportunity of hearing the address. Tea was served after the meeting at the invitation of the lady principal of the college.

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IRISH TIMES

18 OCT 1916

## ALEXANDRA COLLEGE GUILD.

### SOCIAL SERVICE REPORTS.

#### WOMEN'S WORK TO-DAY.

A meeting of the Alexandra College Guild of Social Service was held yesterday afternoon at the College, Dublin. There was a large attendance, and the chair was taken by Lady Talbot de Malahide, Vice-President of the Guild. The proceedings comprised accounts of various phases of the Guild's social service work and an address by the Hon. Mrs. Franklin, entitled "How Women are Helping their Country."

Miss White, LL.D., Principal of the College, in her own name and that of the Guild, offered a cordial welcome to Mrs. Franklin, who, she said, was a warm friend and student of any movements associated with women's activities and well-being. Lady Talbot de Malahide had always taken a great interest in the college, and had done much for schemes connected with the Guild. That meeting, which was not a conference, but an informal gathering, was in the nature of a recruiting meeting for the Guild, and reports of its work would be given by some of its younger members, some of them still students. The speaker added that the Guild had sent 37 children from tenements for a fortnight's holiday in the country; one child, who had been to hospital, was given a month's holiday, and another was sent to Cheeverstown. There was also subscribed £23 10s. 6d. to help factory girls to get holidays. She called upon various members for reports of some of the Guild's social service work.

#### THE REPORTS.

Miss A. Douglas, assistant rent collector at Summerhill, described in very interesting and entertaining manner the work of members of the Guild at the Alexandra tenement houses at Summerhill. She said that they had about twenty families there, half of them living in one room each, and the others in two rooms each. No room was considered properly furnished without a lot of pictures, and as much glass as possible, visible from the doorway. Most of the people kept their rooms nicely, though the degree of cleanliness varied. When two airships came over Dublin, and two boys got out on the roof to see them, one of the oldest tenants was very indignant, fearing that the boys would be recognised by the airmen and get into trouble "these serious times." (Laughter.) Few of the tenants knew how to put anything together for themselves, and helpers were wanted to teach them sewing, and to teach the children knitting. The Guild members had the reputation in Summerhill of being "nice ladies."



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Miss M. Gahan described the work at the Grenville street playroom, where she is a helper. They had a bright, airy room with a fire and a piano, and only wanted helpers. Thirty or forty children enjoyed the games there, and their mothers were glad for them to do so.

Miss K. Preston, Secretary of the Present Students' Bursary, described the bursaries scheme by which ladies of gentle birth and education, who, owing to ill-health or old age, were unable to provide for themselves, and whose income did not exceed £30 a year, were granted bursaries of £13 a year if the recipient's friends also subscribed £13 a year. Great as was the value of the money, the care and kindness extended to each lady by the Guild visitor were of far greater value. Twenty-eight ladies were now receiving full bursaries and twelve half bursaries.

Mrs. R. H. Murray, Secretary and Treasurer of the Belgian House, gave an account of its support and management. She said that its upkeep cost £400 a year. The women folk were mostly engaged in domestic duties; one of the men did gardening and another was a commercial student. In that household of ten persons there had been race questions and class troubles, as well as the little frictions of daily life, but differences were becoming less frequent. In the majority of the cases the Belgians were grateful for what was being done for them.

Miss Kaftannikoff, daughter of the Honorary Warden of the Working Girls' Hostel at Rathmines, spoke of its management and usefulness. The hostel accommodated 24 working girls, sometimes 29, and in a week or two after settling there the girls liked to call it home. Originally the charge for accommodation was 5s. a week, but, owing to the war, the Committee had had to raise the charges to 6s. 6d. and 7s. a week. The girls, who represented all varieties of workers, were provided with three good meals a day. There was laundry accommodation, and in the big sittingroom there was a piano. The hostel was practically self-supporting.

Miss Cherry, a helper, reported on the useful provisions of the Working Girls' Club at Harold's Cross. The girls had a piano, gymnastic and other classes, a penny bank, while games and recreations of various kinds were provided for them.

The Vice-President of the Guild remarked that the accounts which had been given of some spheres of its work were most interesting, and she hoped that many of the younger members would be encouraged to help in efforts of such value to Dublin. (Applause.) She would call upon Mrs. Franklin for her address.

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#### NEW SPHERES FOR WOMEN.

The Hon. Mrs. Franklin remarked that it was encouraging for those who had been engaged for many years in social service to see such a delightful band of young women coming on under the guidance of those already doing such work, and to hear how excellently it was being done. An amazing thing was that women had done the things it was said they never could do. It was said that they could never possibly dig, drive motor cars, and go to the very front, that engineering was an impossible profession for them, and that they were not strong enough to make munitions, while the Civil Service Commission said that it was impossible for men and women to work side by side in Government offices. Women had done the old things in a new and better way. They had been allowed to teach soldiers to cook in a more economical, less wasteful, and more hygienic manner than previously. It was a disgrace they had not been allowed to do it earlier. (Hear, hear.) The laundry established by the National League of Women Workers had been put in Army orders as the official laundry. (Applause.) When they saw the nurses, masseuses, girl motor drivers, tram conductors, girls cleaning the big windows of shops, girls working lifts, collecting orders and executing them, and taking the place of men in every walk of life they realised how women were helping their country. The same spirit spread through the Empire, from the scavenger to that fine woman the Begum of Bhopal, who sent her son with a regiment to help the King-Emperor. Not only were women's hearts willing, their hands and bodies and minds had been trained for the emergency, though they did not get much encouragement in former times.



## FEMALE DOCTORS.

Eminent statesmen who were not quite friendly towards the efforts of women now appealed to them to train for the medical profession. It was wonderful that a woman, still living, whom mud was thrown when she asked just to be allowed to help as a doctor, should have a daughter who had been a major in the British Army, and had charge of a hospital entirely staffed by women. There was a similar hospital in France; Serbia had decorated the members of the Scottish Women's Ambulance, and Russia had welcomed a fully equipped maternity hospital staffed by women, and doing marvellous work at Petrograd. The work of those doctors and nurses was almost a fairy tale, and involved the breaking of new ground. There were now women gamekeepers, shepherds, milkers, farmers, gardeners, and tram conductors, while munition workers were giving their health and their lives, for one trembled to think what the womanhood of the country would be when those girls of 16 and 17 were working twelve-hour shifts, travelling big distances from their homes in crowded vehicles, and cooking their own meals before they started to work, and when they got back. Then there was the mass of voluntary work. The fact that gentlewomen, untrained and unable to help themselves, were asking what they should do made it imperative to urge every girl more and more to train herself for some kind of work. (Applause.) The country wanted more skilled workers in many professions: the war had shown that. For instance, there were not enough skilled opticians, and women were now training for the skilled and lucrative profession of lens-making. Again, the engineering profession was being opened to women. Those who had felt the difficulty of running houses badly constructed, and those who had their minds set upon their professions should be successful in domestic engineering and architecture. (Applause.) In farming, gardening, telegraphy, industrial chemistry, and dyeing, openings had been offered to women, while there was no reason why women should not take up the family business when there was no son, or engage in banking and other business management. With all these new professions they should not forget the old one of teaching and caring for the children, and mothering the nation, which was pre-eminently women's work. While preparing to wield fine tools let them not neglect to see that there were fine persons to wield them. Nor must they do their work as in the limelight, but with the learner's spirit, with the simple single eye which did the work, but did not all the time call attention to the doing of it. Then they could take and rightly claim their share in the regeneration of the world, and the reconstruction of a better world they hoped for after the war. (Applause.)

The Vice-President tendered the thanks of the meeting to Mrs. Franklin and to Miss White for having called them together to hear that address, and tea was then served to those present at the invitation of the Principal of the college.

DUBLIN EXPRESS p23 cmc475  
18 OCT. 1916.ALEXANDRA  
COLLEGE GUILD

## Work of the Branches

"HOW WOMEN ARE  
HELPING THEIR COUNTRY"

## Address by Hon. Mrs. Franklin

A social service meeting under the auspices of the Alexandra College Guild was held yesterday afternoon in the Jellicoe Hall, Lady Talbot de Malahide presiding. There was a large attendance.

Miss H. M. White, LL.D., Principal of the Alexandra College, on behalf of the College and the Guild, expressed a welcome to the Hon. Mrs. Franklin, who, she said, was so closely associated with women's welfare, and paid such great attention to educational and social service questions. It was a great pleasure to them to have in the chair the Vice-President of the Guild, Lady Talbot de Malahide, who had always taken the greatest interest in the College and the Guild. Miss White took the opportunity of expressing thanks to her for the manner in which she had aided in forwarding the work of the Guild. That meeting was not a conference, but was more in the nature of a recruiting meeting. As they had been prevented by that lamentable occurrence the rebellion from holding the usual conference at which the reports of the different branches of the Guild were read, they would now hear reports read by junior members who were responsible for the good work of the Guild. They would come forward and tell of the necessity for helpers in the various branches, and for the present they would only have mentioned the particular branches into which there was an immediate need to recruit helpers in social service work. In connection with the Children's Holiday Fund, Miss Smith mentioned that during the year it had provided for 37 children being sent to the country, and a couple who had suffered illness for a longer period. For the children and the factory girls who had been enabled to get a holiday, the greatest improvement in health had resulted (applause).



## HON. MRS. FRANKLIN'S ADDRESS.

Lady Talbot de Malahide introduced—  
 Hon. Mrs. Franklin who, having referred in terms of appreciation and encouragement to the manner in which the work of the various branches of the guild, as reported, had been performed, delivered an address on "How Women are Helping their Country." She said that perhaps one of the most amazing things that had occurred of late was the Prime Minister's statement that "thousands of women had been ready to help the country but we did not know it." Women did know it, and they only wanted the opportunity and they were only too glad and too eager to help. Another amazing thing was that women had done things that it was thought they never could do. It was thought that they had not the strength to drive motors, to act as tram conductors, to make munitions, or to act in various other capacities which she mentioned. But trained womanhood had done all these things, and in addition to acting as hospital nurses, teaching the soldiers to cook in an economical and more hygienic way, they had done a great deal more. They had the instance of a woman who was permitted to adopt the medical profession, and mud was thrown at her, but since then her daughter had been promoted Major in the British Army, and she and her colleagues had been placed in charge of a hospital with 500 beds (applause). Having enumerated the distinctions gained by women and referred to their successful work in different branches of industrial and other employment, Mrs. Franklin went on to show the various avenues of employment which had been newly opened to them in the commercial world, as manageresses of banking and other businesses, as telegraphists, and the engineering profession. Woman, she said, should not be excluded from any business for which she showed capability and taste. They should not, however, forget the care of the children and the ever increasing work of mothering the nation, which was pre-eminently women's work. They were glad that when the call came it found them trained and prepared. Training was like the tool which they would be able to apply to work, and they should be able to apply that training accurately, thoroughly, and excellently. They should be glad of the opportunity to avail of their training and to fill their minds, to strengthen their hearts, and give them that keen enthusiasm for life which would bring the spiritual humility which meant success (applause).

Lady Talbot de Malahide proposed a cordial vote of thanks to the workers in the various guilds and to the Hon. Mrs. Franklin for her address, which was passed.

FREE MAN'S JOURNAL  
18 OCT. 1916.

**Union of Women Workers.**—Last night a meeting of the Dublin Branch of the National Union of Women Workers of Great Britain and Ireland, which is federated to the International Council of Women, was held at 5 Leinster street. Mrs. Starkie presided, and there was a large attendance of ladies. An interesting address was delivered by the Hon. Mrs. Franklin, London. She described at length the activities of the Union in the English capital in protecting the interests of women and girls in England.

## IRISH INDEPENDENT

18 OCT 1916.

**Women Workers.**—Addressing the first annual meeting of the Dublin branch of the National Union of Women Workers of Great Britain and Ireland, Mrs. Starkie presiding, at 5 Leinster street, the Hon. Mrs. Franklin dealt with various activities in which women are engaged, and said that the women patrol movement would result in the establishment of a permanent women police. The Home Office had employed women patrol workers to look after picture houses in London and report upon various questions discussed by the police authorities as to the control of picture theatre buildings and the films used in them. It was found that these institutions were not entitled to be so much admired as people thought they should be.